SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 1895.

Local, Nawa.—The City and Suburban News Bureau of the Universities and New York Associative Prises to 15 to 20 Ann afrest. All information and docu-inents for public use instantly discensioned to the press of the whole country.

Aiding Cuban Insurgenta.

There has been much exaggeration in the stories current of expeditions sent to Cuba in violation of our neutrality laws. Very likely some bodies of armed men have gone from our ports to the island, and the Government authorities, we believe, think they can make out a case of violating the statutes against the tug George W. Childs, which recently left Key West. But the rumors of unlawful expeditions from other ports, such as Norfolk, have almost invariably proved false, when carefully examined; and the same may probably be said of the stories of expeditions from Nassau on British vessels.

The origin of these rumors may partly be found, perhaps, in the failure to distin guish between lawful and unlawful expeditions to aid the insurgent cause. Arms and ammunition have gone to Cuba from our ports in considerable quantities, but there is nothing against the laws in that. Thirty years ago Secretary SEWARD informed the Mexican Minister that no law, national or international, prevented the sending of arms from the United States to either side in the contest then going on between the patriots a hundred years ago ALEXANDER HAMIL-Toy then Secretary of the Treasury, publicly notified the officers of his department that "purchasing within and exporting from the United States, by way of merchandisc, articles commonly called contraband, being generally warlike instruments and military stores, is free to all the parties at war, and is not to be interfered with."

The recent proclamation of Mr. CLEVE-LAND in regard to the violation of the neutrality laws may seem at a hasty glance to forbid more than it really does. It cannot go a hair's breadth beyond the law, and, as has been seen, the shipment of arms to the insurgents in Cuba as part of a merchantman's cargo, is not interdicted by the law.

Of course, as contraband of war risks be ing stopped and seized by the Spanish authorities in the waters of Cuba, where they have control of their port regulations, there is naturally more or less secrecy connected with shipments that may be lawful here, in order that they may be landed without detection. This secrecy is naturally inter preted, sometimes, as indicating a purpose to violate our neutrality laws. Yet it is no part of the Raleigh's business on the Flor ida coast, or of the British cruiser Mohawk's business at New Providence, to interfere with commerce lawful at the port from which vessels clear, or to perform patrol duty for Spanish gunboats, in order to see that no violations of Spanish law are committed. It is enough for our war ships and revenue cutters to see that our own laws against armed expeditions, the fitting out of vessels to commit hostilities, and other infractions of the neutrality statutes and of international law are not committed, lest our country should become liable to Spain for damages. On the one hand, the case of the Alabama shows what cannot be done, and, on the other, the case of the Itata what can be done in aiding an insurgent cause.

If, however, as the friends of the insurgent cause in Cuba say, they are strong in numbers there and require mainly arms and munitions for those who are ready and anxlous to fight, it is evident that no interference can be expected here with supplying what they chiefly need.

The Opium Commission's Report. We print elsewhere an exhaustive and

Illuminative review by Dr. W. H. DRAPER of the report of the Royal Commission appointed two years ago to inquire whether the cultivation of the poppy and the manufacture and sale of colum should be pro hibited in British India, except for medical purposes, and whether such prohibition could be extended to the protected native States. The investigation was started at the instance of the Anti-Opium Society, the leaders of which originally declared themselves satisfied with the composition of the Commission. The inquiry seems to have been thorough and impartial, having been prosecuted in India, where some 700 witnesses were examined, including all those put forward by the opponents of the drug. It will be observed that Dr. DRAPER, speaking with the authority of one long familiar with the uses of onium in medical practice, approves in the main of the conclusions reached by eight out of the nine Commissioners, which conclusions are to the effect that the consumption of oplum in the forms preferred in India is not detrimental to the health of the people, that their deprivation of this drug would lead to the adoption of a more hurtful stimulant. and that, for these and other reasons, it is inexpedient to prohibit the cultivation of the poppy and the manufacture and sale of ppium in the Auglo-Indian empire.

A supplemental chapter in the history of

this Commission remains to be recounted. The elaborate report was placed in the hands of members of the House of Commons about six weeks ago. On May 24 before any considerable number of members could have found time to carefully examine the vast array of testimony, Sir JOSEPH PEASE, on behalf of the Anti-Opium Society, introduced a resolution, the aim of which substantially was a rejection of the report. He attacked the good faith of the eight Commissioners who had given judgment against the prohibition of the opium traffic, and insinuated that they had been improperly influenced by the Calcutta Government, specifying an occasion when they had actually been present at a dinner and witnessed a Nautch dance Mr. H. FOWLER, in reply, dwelt on the extraordinary pains taken by the Commission to elicit the facts. and on the overwhelming weight of the evidence adduced in support of the majority report. He pointed out that it would be imposable hereafter to induce men of high character and qualifications to serve on a royal commission, if after many months of labor they were to be subjected to an insuiting impeachment of their motives and capabilities. He challenged any one who had read the report to deny the cogency of the testimony that, while the abuse of optum is no doubt harmful, the moderate use which is made of the drug in India does not cause any extensive moral or physical degradation. Mr. Fewiles proceeded to argue that the misery, disease, and crime resulting from the abuse of alcohol in Europe are infinitely greater and more pervasive than the mischiefs occasioned by the abase of opinm in the East. It would, minimizations, be little short of criminal for the British Government to over in the light of the facts. music a vain afficings to remove one cyll at | If it were asked what new thing has ap-

the risk of introducing another and far worse one. Moreover, he said. Great Britain did not come into the court of morals with clean hands. It would ill beseem a rich country, which itself derived an income of from \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 from drink, to ask a poor country like India to give up its revenue from oplum. As to the export of Indian opium to China, Mr. POWLER contended that, were this cut off, the Middle Kingdom would grow for itself all the supply required. He might have buttressed this assertion with the evidence furnished in the recent book on China by r. R. S. GUNDRY, who testifies that from he province of Szechuen alone the output of opium is double the import from India.

The outcome of the debate was the reject tion of Sir Joseph Phase's resolution by majority of 117 in a small house of 235, wherein the anti-oplum party had undoubtedly mustered as many members as it could The report, therefore, of the Royal Commission stands approved by the same House of Commons which called for the investigation

The Democratic Situation. A vague scheme and rumored plan of ampaign on the Democratic side in this State this year, is going about in some of the newspapers. The projectors promise to en large the lines of admission to the next State Convention so as to admit to membership all individual delegates claiming to be Democrats, without bar or hindrance against either Mugwumps or Populists. The theory seems to be that if the next State Convention shall represent not only the dominant faction of the New York Democracy, but and the empire in Mexico. And more than | minority factions as well in those counties where they exist, great good will ensue and the party's prospects will be improved. This process, familiar always after a defeat, and always popular with exuberant and unthinking partisans, is called "throwing wide open the doors."

Those who advocate this plan of campaign on the proposed basis of free-for-all admission to the next Democratic State Convention, and no questions asked, show very little knowledge of the true political condition, and still less acquaintance with the causes of which it is the logical result. They seem to suppose that the evils which have beset the party here since March 4, 1893, are somehow the result of factional differences, which it needs only a firm harmonizing hand to abate, and which, once abated, will open to Democratic success in November the roadway now closed for repairs.

The truth is that the condition which has confronted the Democracy in this State since the last inauguration of GROVER CLEVELAND, is not different from what it is elsewhere. With two Democratio candidates in the field for Governor, the head of the Democratic State ticket last year polled more than 40 per cent, of the total vote cast, a percentage very high when it is considered in comparison with the States adjacent, The Democrats in New Jersey, all barmoniously united, polled only 39 per cent. of the vote of that State at the same election, the Democrats of Ohio 36 per cent., the Democrats of Massachusetts 87 per cent., and the Democrats of Pennsylvania 85 per cent., with internal harmony intact in each, and no factional troubles.

If a scoop-net warranted to catch every political minnow in the swelling sea of citizenship, was cast out for all the Mugwumps. Populists, Silverites, Laborites, Anarchists, and Soreheads in this State, the general round-up of all these would not give the Democracy a majority, if it was still compelled to carry the burden of the Federal Administration. The root of the evil is not the question of numerical representation, but the graver and greater issue of burdens which with remorseless frequency and relentless indifference to party prospects and promises, have been heaped upon the Democratic party in New York and all other To be a Democrat last year, or rather to have supported Democratic candidates, meant in many of these States: First. the justification of a foreign policy against which all veritable Americans instinctively revolt; secondly, the condonement of a deliberate and shameless violation of the most solemn and definite pledge to alter radically the tariff system; thirdly, the defence of an iniquitous and unconstitutional system of ome tax abhorrent to Democracy; and, fourthly, a justification of the errors and deficiencies of Congress.

These were the loads which weighted the Democracy and barred its way to success; and those who would have brighter skies this year, must wait till new conditions are established.

What the Democracy needs more than anything else in this State, as elsewhere, is the formulation and acceptance of some political issue which will not entail and involve a defence of the Administration. In other words, if the Democratic party in New York State can take positive and definite issue with the Republican party here on some point distinct from the questions which divided the two parties in November. 1803, and in November, 1894, its chances will be improved. But admitting minority delegates to a Democratic Convention will not by any means accomplish that result.

In like manner, there is a fair prospect this year of the Democratic party getting together on local questions in this town. Such a union, if made judiciously on sound Democratic lines, would be beneficial to party success; but the labors of a committee of fifty, if there are fifty such Democrats, taken from the handful of those who find anything to applaud in the course of the national Administration, would be of no benefit, and might entail additional defections from the Democratic standard at a time when every Democrat is cordially invited to do his full duty and to do it with-

out unnecessary explanations. The recent Republican Lagislature in its management of State affairs has furnished the Democratic party in New York with some issues which, under normal conditions, would be favorable to their cause. But with a deficiency of several million doliars foreshadowed in Washington under a Democratic Secretary of the Treasury, an increase of several thousand dollars in taxes under a Republican Comptroller in Albany may not count for much with the

voters of the State. School Teacher and Bicycle.

The order issued by the Board of Education at College Point, Long Island, forbidding teachers in the public schools to come to school in the morning on bleycles, shows that the subject may well be reconsidered from the point of view of every faction of the community to whom the bicycle has always been unwelcome. When Justice of the Peace, in this instance Squire WILLIAM SUTTER, thinks that "for our boys and girls to see their women teachers ride up to the school door and dismount from a bicycle, is conducive to immoral thoughts and will sooner or later cause the boys and girls to lose respect for the teachers." it is time for all anti-bievelists to come together and talk the situation

nest impressed itself on the attention and habits of the community, the answer would have to be, the bicycle. From a toy it has secome useful. From a device for recreation it has become a recognized vehicle of bust ness or business-pleasure. Men that kept horses for amusement now keep blcycles and no horses. Men who used horses in their business now use bicycles. Men who were unable to afford horses, can afford bicycles; and where once they footed it, they now ride and enjoy the pleasure and the advantage of covering areas of country that were formerly possible to horsemen only Yesterday's great assemblage of bicyclists to celebrate the opening of a new feature of our maps, a special bicycle road, was only a passing festivity of a sport, we will call it, destined to be continuous, and as useful as it is now fervent.

The countless bicycle records that are recorded among sports, for short and long distances, are probably unnoticed by the ma fority of people; but every one of them, from the mile in two minutes to the startling feat of nearly four hundred miles in twenty-four hours, has a good effect. The least ambitious bicyclist among the thousands is the better for knowing the possibilities of his machine; and, eliminating the few and inevitable instances of excess, such knowledge is apt to be a wholesome stimulus to the bicycle's use. The bicycle on its business side is yet in its infancy. Its spread can only surprise those who have never mounted one, and who have neither felt the fascingtion of its speed and management, nor had the chance to test for themselves personally its actual powers for locomotion. The present rage for wheeling as a pastime, and the rush by both sexes to learn the art, might disappear altogether, and we are confident that the bicycle would still be seen turning with ever-increasing popularity along the avenues of practical life. The wheel is full of fun; but it's out for business, all the same.

The first person to see in the bicyclist an undesirable comer was the horseman. The wheel, with its dashing, dodging, uncertain, and fragile rider, is the most objectionable and exasperating object to horsemen that has ever come upon the road. Barking dogs, frightened children, or indifferent and immovable cows, are forgiven, or even loved, in the presence of the wheelman. Alongside of him the horseman feels like a railroad engineer drilling his cars through a yard overrun with human beings. He knows that if he strikes he kills: and vet, whether he strikes or not does not depend solely on his own skill and prudence.

The walking citizen's account against the bicycle is heavier than the driver's. The accidents to pedestrians in our towns, particularly in New York, have been serious as well as numerous, and the outcry which has ariseu as a matter of common propriety, has not been feeble. A city would unquestionably be more agreeable to the mass of pedestrians, pecessarily the overwhelming majority of the inhabitants, if the wheels should disappear for good. But in spite of the objections of foot people and drivers, and of frowning school trustees and hostile preachers, the bicycle has come to stay, Eventually we will all be content with it and most of us happy.

We in general have got to accommodate ourselves. The horseman has got to take the road as he finds it, with the unnatural presence of man, wavering without the power to stop and stand in his tracks like other creatures. Pedestrians must expect to accustom themselves to the bicycle and its dangers as they would accustom themselves, perforce, to a cable car or the trolley. They can regulate, but they cannot abolish, and they must make the best of it. And as for the moralist, any old fogy who thinks he sees the shadow of indelicacy in a wheelwoman, had better make up his mind on the spot that he will have to throw up his prejudice before the judgment of the world, which looks on the wheel without even a thought of immorality in its head, and which, in its commonplace sense and impartiality, regards wheeling as an exercise morally indistinguishable from the every-day occupation of walking.

The more school teachers and scholars that find their way to school on bicycles, the better will be the scholarship and the fewer should need to be the schoolhouses.

The New Spelling Book.

The FUNK and WAGNALLS Company, acting as representatives of the latest movement for the reform of English spelling, send us a courteous invitation to join with a hundred or more "editors, authors, prominent teachers, or prominent business men in a pledge to spell certain words according to a schedule furnished. We note. in the first place, that there is nothing violent or very cranky in the programme of these gentlemen. Their list of words to be reformed is selected from the larger list recommended by the American Philological Association and the Spelling Reform Association. It contains three hundred words, and the proposed changes include a number of geographical names where the question is one of transliteration rather than philology; such, for example, as Tibet for Thibet, Bering for Behring, and Kongo for Congo.

Leaving out of consideration these con graphical terms, we find that the number of important or significant changes is still further reduced by the inclusion of many words which are already spelled as the committee propose by a respectably large part of the English-speaking race. That is to say, in suggesting that arbour be spelled arbor; behaviour, behav for; cancellation, cancelation; chloride, chlorid; cyclopædia, cyclopedia; duellist, duelist; æsthetic, esthetic, and so forth, the reformers are not in all cases ahead of common usage. A large part of the reforms they propose have aiready been admitted by the slower and surer process that is going on all the time, without individual or organized effort, making continually for the simplification of the language. Many of the words as printed in the list are the preferred spellings already, and in some instances the only spellings given in the up-to-date dictionaries. Another class of words, amounting in number to nearly twenty, includes those ending in er or re, such as saber for sabre, and theater for theatre. Since NOAH WEBSTER, long ago, people have been accustomed to either form of these words, and have come to regard the two forms as alternatives to be adopted according to individual preference; in neither case does the spelling shock the eyes.

We are at a loss to understand why the eighteen words here subjoined should appear in a scheme of reform like that which

we are considering: Bequeath. Havoe. Prenay, Monogram, Myth. Neutraliza, By and by, Prophecy, n., Prophecy, v., Becreey, Envelop, v., Conclet, Smooth, Hpheram. Parquet.

These are accepted spellings everywhere in this country at least, and in most cases both here and in England. Where do the

peared within the last ten years which has | habitual cacographists, who will spell be queath, or myth, or diagram, or sprite, otherwise than as printed in the committee's list? The violence to the eye and the strain to the memory would be in spelling these words in any other way than according to the reform circular's suggestions. It seems decidedly like a waste of energy to attempt at this time of the century to teach the public not to write bequethe, or havock, or

duette, or epigramme, or spright, or phrensy Now we come to those words in the list which involve a change from the customary spelling radical enough to give an appearance of eccentricity to English writ ten or printed in accordance with the committee's plan. These are about two hun dred in number, and while we have not room for all of them, the eighty-one specimens here presented practically cover the ground, most of the other changes being

analogous:		
Abrest,	Doett,	Perquisit.
Accomplishe	Dredful.	Fantom,
Advertizment	Endevor.	Farmacy,
Ads.	Enrol.	Plum [for plum
Altho,	Eufony,	Pontif,
Amfiblous,	Favorit,	Premis.
Autograf,	Feminin.	Reim,
Avalanch,	Forgivness,	Recelt,
Aw [for awe]	Gat.	Itime,
Beutiful,	Gaus.	Saffire,
Bedsted,	Gazel,	Bbril,
Befrend,	Glimps,	Skut,
Bewich,	Garantee.	Bonstry,
Biuf.	Gard,	Staf.
Blunderhed.	Handouf,	Stedfast,
Bodygard,	Duess,	Telegrafy.
Brekfast,	Intestin,	Tho,
Buxum,	Jelousy,	Thred,
Bygon,	Mats.	Thret
Camtor,	Mold,	Thru,
Catalog.	Orthografy,	Thruous,
Chil.	Overspred,	Trechery,
Closure,	Paragrat,	Treatis,
Curtesy.	Parafernalla,	Tressel,
Defness,	Parlament,	Triumfant,
Derth,	Pedler,	Whisky.
Distil,	Pel-mel,	Yern.
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The design is to secure the adoption of the new spelling of the words on the list by a sufficient number of writers and publishers to accustom the public to it gradually, and to break the force of criticism as against any individual reformer. When this is done, another step in advance can be taken; and so on, indefinitely, until English orthography has become a thing of symmetry and consistency. We are asked to pledge ourselves to use the forms prescribed in the list of three hundred words, without prejudice as to future innovations. While many of the changes proposed may be judicious, and the movement toward a simpler orthography may be continuous and desirable, we must respectfully decline the committee's invitation, for the following reasons:

I. Personal convenience. The selection of words is so arbitrary and some of the words are of such infrequent use that the strain to memory and the constant necessity of reference to the list would, in our opinion, render it a task and a bore to keep the pledge. In our endeavors to live up to our promise we should suffer more annovance than the thing is worth to our selves or to anybody else. This is a selfish reason, and we put it first.

II. Practical effectiveness. The effect of the adoption of the new spelling in the cases specified would be to unsettle the mind as to the proper spelling of similar words not included in the list. Why write abrest while continuing to write breast? Why write accomplisht while continuing to write wished, and not wisht? Why write beute ous and beutiful, and not beuty? Why autograf, and not holograf; handcuf and not cuf; overspred, and not spred; chil and thril, and not fil and mil asbestin, amaranthin, amethystin, and libertin, and not labyrinthin; discurteous, and not curteous; blunderhed, and not hed; bedsted, and not insted; rime, and not rithm? We could go on with an indefinite number of inconsistencies of this sort. It is a cheap and easy way of attacking any commendable project, and we do not employ it for that reason. But it certainly seems to us that where the words selected for the beginning of the reform constitute, as these do, exceptions among the words of their own class, the difficulty of remembering what words are to be reformed and what words are to stay unreformed until the next ster in advance is taken, will be considerable There will be constant confusion, and the results, at the best, will be scathing. The proposed changes, on the whole, do not count for uniformity.

III. Sound philological policy. The project, like all similar attempts to force the language into a phonetic straitjacket, tenda to the unsettlement of historical values. In our opinion, nothing that can be gained in simplicity and uniformity will compensate for the destruction, in many instances, of the heart and life of the noble English language. The unreformed word carries to the knowing its own pedigree, its own blography, and its own certificate of character The reformed word may be easier for ignoramuses to spell, but it is only a symbol of a chapter of human history that has been blotted out.

IV. The sense of humor. This is a consideration which does not appeal strongly to some philological reformers, but it is never theless operative in the public mind. There is something inherently and irremediably ludicrous in aw for awe, fantom for phantom, and skul for skull. As to the last mentioned change, it will be a long time before people learn that skul means the cranium, and not the place where children are educated; inasmuch as some projects of orthographic reform have already proposed skule for school. Buxum is comic Thret is trivial. The words belonging to the class of tho, altho, thru, and thruout have never ceased to appear grotesque when so printed; and, although an esteemed friend, the Hon. ELLIS H. ROBERTS, has labored for years in the columns of the Utica Herald to make them familiar to the eye, he has gained few adherents, if any, in that particular specialty of reform. We do not like whiskey without the c in it; and as for bluf, with one f, in the words of the late ARTEMUS WARD, "This is 2 mutch!"

For some weeks past we have observed a gang of Italian laborers clearing a piece of rocky ground, not far from a square acre is upon which a large building is to be erected. We never saw better or more faithful laborers than these hardy Italians, who, with their picks, shovels, crowbars, big hammers, wheelbarrows perform the hard labor. Steadily and faithfully they toll for ten hours a day, rain or shine. They must be exceedingly strong men, though they are undersized and of light frame. By 6 o'clock in the morning they are on hand, and for an hour they can b seen in their Garibaldi ahirts and overalls sitting on the broken rocks or lying on the bits of greensward, am king their pipes, and holding dialogue in the mellifluous speech of the Sicilians, while waiting to go to work. It is not surprising that so many of the large employers of unakilled labor appreciate that of this race. The laziness of the Sicilians, about which travellers have often told, is changed into aberiousness when they come to this country We do not wonder that the proletariat take things easily in Sicily. What incentive to industry have they there? It is hard for them to obtain work; their payment is paitry; their fare is poor and meagre; their crushing; any chance of betterment is not to be reformers expect to find anybody, barring shought of. Give them such wages and food as

they get here; give them a hope of advancement; give their children free schools; let then acquire the American spirit, and very soon their ways of life are changed. The tens of thousand of Italians in New York, a large proportion of whom came here from Sicily, are as hard and patient tollers as any people of any other race

in the city. The Democratic party has a beautifully developed case of silver mossles, and ought to be well cured before the campaign of 1800. With the Republicans the disease is not so fully broken out; but they've got it, and by 1896 may find themselves not half so able to get up as the

There ought to be an investigation of the emplaint made by the Rev. Mr. Jackson, recently a Haptist missionary among the blacks on the Congo, that only a small part of the funds raised for mission purposes ever reacher the missionaries. He has made this damaging complaint before the Baprist Missionary Assodation. Ho bimself had been left to starve on the Congo, and he has given up his missionary labors there because he could not live upon the rats which he trapped. We have never doubted that American missionary societies in general are honestly managed, and hence we are unable to account for the several complaints which have been sent here from mission fields in Asia and Africa. There ought to be a rigid investigation of the use of the large amounts of money contributed for missionary purposes. If it be ascertained that, in any case, too large a proportion of these funds is expended for the support of the society's officers in the United States, the pruning knife ought to be applied to the official salary list, regardless of consequences. Many people of narrow means deposit their small con tributions in the missionary boxes for the sake contributions should ever be wasted or unwisely

In these biking times SHANKS his mare must not be wholly neglected. We are led to give this reminder by perusing our despatch about that brave woman of the Bronz who is tramping from Oswego to this city, across the State, on a heavy wager. It looks as though there must be some mistake in the itinerary that has been sent to us; for, if she covered the ground from Oswego to Poughkeepsie between last Sunday morning and Thursday, she ought to be here within half the allotted time of twenty days. Is it possible that she can cover fifty miles a day, straight along, without counting the bends and the bothers?

Certainly, we favor the bicycle. It is all the go just now. But, for all that, we like pedestrian ism, which had better not be given up by everybody. We would not care so much for a tramp these hot days from Lake Ontario to this side of Long Island Sound: but anybody who can cover morning before 6 o'clock, will pretty surely need

The Bronx pedestrian now under view travels safely. She is accompanied by a big dog.

The academic cap and gown has become an accepted institution. At the commence ment exercises of Columbia College this week the students were that garb, as they have worn it in other years. It was worn by the graduat ing class of the New York University; and by that of Princeton University; and by that of Yale University; and by that of the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church; and by that of other institutions of learning. At the commencement exercises of Vassar College this week the officers were the Oxford cap and gown, while the hundred young women of the senior class were handsomely uniformed in high-necked gowns of lawn. It

was a fine show.

The opposition to an academic garb for our students has been silenced.

The Yale corporation has this year adopted a very elaborate statute for academic costumes, designating the patterns of the gowns, hoods, and caps which are officially authorized. Permission is given to wear them upon all appropriate occasions, as an indication of the several degrees enjoyed in the university, and of the faculties to which they pertain. The gowns are of worsted stuff or silk, with velvet trimmings in some cases. The color is black. The hoods, are of like material and color, lined with blue. The caps are of the mortar board pattern and black, ornamented with a long tassel.

There is not much gayety about the Yale garb. We should have liked it to have a greater variety of colors. But it will have to do, for it is the pleasure of the corporation, and has been the subject of years of serious thought. In one ancient Scotch university the students' dress to scarlet, and it looks very well.

We are beginning to think better of that of the Ameer of Afghar England. He despises state ceremonies, the pomp of courts, and grand feasts, but he enjoys Punch and Judy. There's a sensible young Afghan. His tastes are natural; his pleasures are plain; his soul is free from humbug. When on his way to a state banquet his attention was arrested by a Punch and Judy show in the street, and he kept the grandees of the banquet waiting nearly an hour for him. The show was the most fascinating thing he had seen in London, and the fun of it was more to his satisfaction than were the victuals which are forbidden to him by his religion.

In the streets of New York we have not the Punch and Judy who make merriment in the streets of English and French cities. The boys here know nothing of them as free popular entertainers. They are not tolerated in the streets because they would be an obstruction. It seems to us that they might be tolerated in some streets, which are dull enough. They splendid. They are the liveliest couple in the world. They do all sorts of things. Their antics please the brain. They make everybody laugh, They lighten life and drive away care. would Mayor STRONG think of letting Punch and Judy loose in some parts of the city? If the Shahzade of Afghanistan liked them, the Mayor of New York might come to like them before the end of his term. And what

glory he would get from the boys as the intro ducer of them. The bicycle is not as dangerous to life and

limb as the Brooklyn troiley, yet we have very many reports of accidents to bicyclers. We have observed that most of them occur because of the lack of skill on the part of the rider upor the vehicle. Many novices are impatient of the training which is required to obtain a thorough knowledge of the fine art of wheeling and a perfect command of the wheel in difficult situa tions. It looks to them like an easily acquired art when they see an expert on the fly, just as it may see .. easy to run a train of cars when the engineer is seen sitting on his stool or to ride horseback when an experienced equestrian sweeps proudly along. A bicycler ought to know his machine as an engineer knows his engine, or an equestrian his steed; and this knowledge can be obtained only by patient study of its psculiarities. It is dance indulge in self-confidence before there is justification for it. The bicycler who has a trained mind is all the safer for it. In turn, the bicycle is a trainer of the mind. The professors of the art say that thoughtful people have a great advantage over the unthoughtful as riders. We should suppose that to be so; for so it is in all the affairs of life.

Raform Is Indispensable.

From the different Evening Journal.
This has refers to "that devial botch—the late Consufficiency with that Convention was its control and management, and the general impression that whatever the Convention dat its work would be repre-diated to the people. The Ses is perfectly correct in is agreeion called for action by the Legislature mext winter for the purpose of remedying the egregion

blunders which have been made in the organic law of Meat. From the Letreil Tribune. "I don't know of another beast," observed the Hog who is able to make both ends meat."

> What He Got, From the Delroit Tribune

THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW YORK. It Mast Bo Amended - Section

Action III. From the Post-Espress We have heard no echo of THE SUN's demand for a new Constitutional Convention. It is true that much of the work of the Convention that was in session a year ago was done by caucus decree; and it is true that there are unwise provisions in the new Constitution, but the sent ment of the people seems to be that the really important mistakes should be corrected by the submission of amendments by the Legislature In spite of the general impression to the contrary it would require only a year longer to amend the Constitution in this way than by a Con stitutional Convention, and there is no doubt that the work could be done quite as well.

THE SUN, however, has done a great public service in calling attention to the aston'shing blunder of the Convention in retaining section on of Article III. This section seems not to have been considered by a committee or debated by the Convention, but was retained by general consent. Everybody supposed it was all right and so nobody took the trouble to examine it. Section 17 of Article III. provides that " r

act shall be passed which shall provide that any existing law, or any part thereof, shall be made or deemed a part of said act or which shall epact that any existing law, or part there of, shall be applicable, except by inserting it in such act."

Section IS of Article III. prohibits the Legislature from passing a private or local bill in any of the fol-lowing cases:

lowing cases;
Changing the names of persons.
Laying out opening, altering working, or discontinuing roads, lightways, or aloys, or for draining swamps or other low lands,
Locating or changing county seats.
Providing for changes of venue in civil or crimina

incorporating villages.
Providing for election of members of Boards of

Incorporating villages.

Troviding for election of members of Boards of Froviding for election of members of Boards of Froviding for elections, summoning, or impansiting Selections.

Selecting the first of interest on money.

The opening and conducting of elections or designating places of voting.

Creating, increasing, or decreasing fees, percentages, or allowances of public affairs, during the term for which said officers are elected or appointed.

Oraning to any corportion, association, or individual the right to lay down railroad tracks.

Granting to any private corporation, association, or individual the right to lay down railroad tracks.

Oraning to any private corporation, association, or individual any exclusive privilege, immunity, or franchise whatever.

Providing for building bridges, and chartering companies for such purposes, except on the Hudson Rilver below Waterford, and on the East Rilver, or over the waters forming a part of the boundaries of the State.

The Legislature may pass general laws providing for those cases, but no special laws—with this important exception.

Section 23. Sections 17 and 18 of this article shall not apply to any bill, or the amendments to any bill, which shall be reported to the Logislature by commissioners who have been appointed pursuant to law to revise the statutes.

This is the section in the old Constitution

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that ought not to have been retained. As matters stand, the Commissioners of Statutory Revision, Charles Z. Lincoln, A. J. Northrup, and W. H. Johnson, three Republicans appointed by Gov. Morton, or a majority of them, may report to the Legislature a bill locating or changing a county seat, regulating the rate of interest in special case, granting the right to an individual to lay railroad tracks, or conferring upon any private corporation or individual any exclusive privilege, immunity, or franchise; and the Legislature may pass the bill. This section 23 virtually gives to the Statutory Revision Commissioners and the Legislature the right to amend section 18 without consulting the people at all. "We certainly have," says a member of the Convention, an eminent lawyer of New York city, "a perpetual third power in the State, in the Commissioners of Statutory Revision, which, with the concurrence of the Legislature, can override or ignore at their pleasure sections 17 and 18 of Article III. of the Constitution and the degree of danger which may menace the people and institutions of the State during the next twenty years, or until the Constitution may be amended properly, depends wholly upon the virtue of the Commissioners and the Legislature." An admirable summary

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"The exceptional circumstances under which this section was adopted as a part of the Constitution in 1874 did not justify its readoption now. It may well be urged that it was of doubtful propriety even in 1874, sitiough not regarded as positively danyorous, but it was roudered more acceptable from the fact that it was of which its property of the property of questionable property, which ordinary out to be conferred upon any tribunal of three persons. "The extraordinary powers were, however, nover exercised, and it is minatorial now to inquire for what reason. It may be that the excellent provisions of section 18 had proven so valuable and indespensable to the taxasyers of municipalities that no one had the hardinest to venture a suggestion for their abolition or modification, but it is sufficient to know that they were never disturbed, and that section 23 (for mer's description of the commissioners, which continued to provisions of section 18 had proven so valuable and indespensable powers mentioned, became virtually obsolete upon the termination of the labors of the Commissioners. powers mensioned, became virtually obsolete upon the termination of the shorts. Commissioners. "The reasons which induced or total Commissioners of section v3 formerly section 20 in the adoption operative in 1844 after the daps of two decreases and after the vital and mentimatise restrictions of section 18 had demonstrated their usefulness, after the did Commission of uncertain tenure, had been created, not appointed by the Legislature, but by the Governor. Overnor.
"But the unwise precedent of 1874 should not have been followed, even if any or all of the reasons which then excused its adoption still existed."

This is not a party question. In the highest some of the term it is a political question. do not think the people want a new Constitutional Convention, but undoubtedly there is a widespread demand for the abolishment of sec tion 23. The safeguards embodied in section 18 are of the highest value, and no Commission acting with the Legislature, should have the right to set them aside. Pending this amendment, it is the duty of all to watch the proceedings of the Statutory Revision Commissioner with the greatest vigilance. These gentlemen may have no desire to set aside any of the provisions and prohibitions of section 18, but assuredly if they do have that desire now or at any time in the future, their bills should be resisted and beaten.

Poor Ireland !-Questions Answered.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A few weeks ago, in an issue of The Sux, in which appeared some com-ments on the poet laureateship of England, I was at a loss to know the force of the words, "Poor Ireland." with which the paragraph closed. In to-day's editorial, with which the paragraph closed. In to day sentence,
"The Queen's Many Cares," the same pathetic words.
"The Queen's Many Cares," the same pathetic words.
"Poor old Ireland." appear at the end. The exclamation being wholly unconnected with the rest of the
remarks, I can't, for the life of me, see through it.
New York, June 12.

A READER.

The exclamation "Poor Ireland!" had the ame force, the same bearing, and the same purpose, in both instances. In the first instance, we had spoken of the many marks of honor which Queen Victoria enjoyed on her birthday, and, in thinking of her reign, as it relates to her Irish subjects, it seemed to us not inappropriate to exclaim, "Poor Ireland!" In the other instance, we had spoken of her Majesty's deep concern over the wrongs of the Armeniau subjects of the Sultan of Turkey, and, when we thought of the wrongs of her own subjects in Ireland, it seemed proper to say, "Poor old Ire-We had not thought it necessary to explain the purpose of the exclamation in either nstance.

Joy in Plac Day.

To run Entropy or Tag Sun-Sir, Did you see those flags? And wasn't the night of Wast street and Broad way one to warm the cookles of an "anti-Godkin's" heart! And a momber of them tooked brand new, too hady's been reading Tue Sox. FLAG DAY, 1805.

Look Out for States Island.

From the Richmond County Herold.
Staten island is destined to thine forth in the near Sign is a new world, Out of the nebula of long-fedure like a new world, Out of the nebula of long-related alterneous it will grandly emerge glo-rous in its newly acquired establisher, and will specify accord until in the south of its splender it will take its rightful place, prominent to the eye of the public at large, and fulfilling in its gigoniear scale rements every hope and wish now ardently en-

One of Time's Changes.

From the Petroit Tribings.

In years agone, when he had not fue five and it wenty cents. He wanthed the daily that some through A knowledge in the fence.

A methods in the fence, also it was a wanth now, and marries much to know why he seeks not not of what he saw Torongh the knowledge for a substitute of the saw Torongh the knowledge for grown.

The Worst of a Constant Cough, and the Soroness of Lings, which generally accompanies it, are both temedical by Dr. D. Jajue's Expectorant. - Ada.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETY. The transition period which occurs every ummer and winter when household gods are fe process of removal and town and country houses undergo the terrible process of dismantling on the one hand and renovating on the other, is never very satisfactory for the society chron icler. In spite of the alleviations that wealth affords to the wearied householder, American women are too conscientious to relegate all their

duties to hirelings, and as a consequence they drop in now at Delmonico's and the Waldorf about dinner time, quite worn out with the head work they have done, even although the manual labor may have been satisfactorily performed by others. Roof gardens hold out no attractions; theatres are a weariness of the flesh. To get away and to rest in peace whither the most mportant of their household staff have gone before is all that they really care for. The great Suburban, which was run yesterday, kept a large number of men in town, and the next few days will see their final exodus with their children, their mothers, and their wives

Newport of course heads the list of watering places, which, having been swept and garnished are now waiting in complete and symmetrical order for the coming of residents and the approach of the never-coasing throng of visitors and pleasure seekers, for whose convenience and enjoyment the busy gates and doors turn incessantly upon their hinges. Without any doubt Newport in June is a garden of beauty, and those who come early enjoy its loveliness of landscape, lawn, and garden, which every week of the advancing season dulls and darkens.

Very few houses are now unoccupied, the Casino and its grounds are open, services have been held in All Saints Chapel, new trans and turnouts appear every day on Hellevue avenue, and while old ocean thunders out its warning and rebukes upon rock and sand, the imposing atmosphere of luxury and indulgence settles quietly down upon the city by the sea. There will be very few absentees from the summer olony this year, and those who are gone will be replaced and scarcely remembered. The opening of the old Astor place by Mr. Calvin S. Brice and his family will add cheerfulness to the avenue, for its closed gates have awakened gloomy thoughts during the last five years, Beechwood will probably be a centre of gayety, as, if Mrs. Astor does not return, Mrs. John Jacob will bring with her at her annual visit all the brightness that her charming personality and intense enjoyment of the best that life has to give always carry with them. The stone and marble dwellings that astonish the world by their vastness and surprise it by the diminutive grounds in which they stand, will be opened in due time by Mr. Vanderbilt and Mr. Goelet and it is fondly hoped, will be the scene of many splendid functions. Doubt still hangs over the opening of the Marble House, which looms up in cold and formal whiteness beltind its tawdry gilded gates, bearing no beauty in its architec-tural lines and adding to the appearance of the avenue only when its open doors permit a view of the richness of its interior decorations and the wealth of its artistic furnishings.

The vicinity of Brenton's Cove is once more alive. Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Morgan and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clews, who were absent last year, are at home again in their beautifully located cottages, quite removed from the noise, heat, and glare of Newport's more central life. Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish has taken possession of the Spencer villa at Ochre Point, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Vanderbilt have arrived at Rough Point, not altogether sorry, perhaps, to exchange its fresh breezes for the verdure and heat that make the Hudson River a sufficiently paradise. The centre of English diplomatic life was opened at the King cottage, in Redwood street, where Lord Westmeath, the Hon. Cecil Spring Rice, and Mesers. Ford and Oberin will attend to business, supplemented by pleasure, until the return of Sir Julian Pauncefote. It is a matter of congratulation to Mrs. Isaso Bell's relatives and friends that she has safely accomplished the journey to her Newport home at Bailey's Beach, after her long and trying illness. Mrs. Bell has endured much bodily suffering, as well as many family bereavements, during the last year, and it is hoped that change of air and more cheerful surroundings may restore her to her old-time health and spirits.

It is early yet to make any predictions of gayety or even to allude to possible belles and debutantes. Sport will naturally come largely to the front. Golf will rule the land and yachts and yachtsmen spread their flags and canvas triumphantly on the sea. Bicycles will spin over the roads by daylight and moonlight; tennis though somewhat snubbed, will have its day at the annual tournament. Ladies will sail boats and fence, run races, hunt, shoot, swim, play matches at golf and tennia do everything, in fact, that man can do, except enlist as jockeys at horse races or become expert polo players. and even these may come in time. Dancing does not come largely to the front in the scheme of summer pleasures, but ballrooms must necessarily be utilized, if for nothing else than te dis-

Across the bay from Newport, Narraganse Pier is asserting itself boldly this year, and so is its lovely neighbor, New Lendon, where every cottage is rented, and there is a good prospect for life and gayety. The intercollegiate rowing matches give New London a start at the beginning of the season, and the rendezvous of the vachts in its enscions harbor s few weeks later keeps up a stir and spirit in its summer colony, to which is added the excitement and diversions of Casino life and the dances and dinners among its many charming cottagers, it is expected that Mr. Lanfear Norrie, who was married in Paris yesterday to Miss Ethel Barbey, will bring his bride to New London before the close of the summer on a visit to his parents, who have a place there.

play loveliness in diamonds and point lace.

The marriage of Miss Mary Stuart Whitney, daughter of the late Stephen Whitney, to Mr. Robert Livingston Stevens, youngest son of the late Commodore Edwin A. Stevens, was very quietly celebrated in Morristown on day, but on account of the recent death of Mr. John Stevens, but few of the bridegroom's family were present.

Cards have been issued by Mr. and Mrs. William Perry for the marriage of their daughter. Miss Bertha Perry, to Mr. Peter Lorillard Ronalds at Bay Ridge on the 26th inst.

The bridat pairs who have nominally been made one during the last few weeks are enjoying their honeymoons at various distant points. Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Burden, Jr., have gone to Baltimore. Mr. George Vanderbilt's place at Asheville and Mr. and Mrs. Belmont Tiffany are enjoying a week's fishing near the Thousand Isles of the St. Lawrence.

Every one knows that golf is to be the crare of the summer, and every man who owns a few acres of ground in an eligible situation is laying out a golf course for his own and his friends' amusement. At Ferneliff on the Hudson Mr. J. J. Aster has just completed a fine links in the park surrounding his own house. It has nine holes, the measurement of the course being one and a quarter miles. This will be a great source of enjoyment to Mrs. Astor, who is a more than usually good player, and will add greatly to the attractions of Ferneliff during the autumn months.

Even conservative and straightfaced Londoners have at last fallen victims to "Lycks. which by the way, is now an accepted work there. Battersen Park is the fashionable place in the mornings, and a new club with to take rant is being started there for breakfasts and luncheons. Hyde Park also is to be thrown pen to them before 10 o'clock in the marining Lord Ronald Gower has, however, written ? London paper that "bicycles are not only a nuisance, but a danger, and one is toyet sate from the demons who career about the many Mazeppas on these internal nor But then Lord Rouald is growing old and is not

quite up to date. French wemen of fashion, according to the London Court Journal, are visibly at war ave English women of fashion. The French are solutely antagonistic to the English in the me ter of color. The Parisians are severely to ing the Londoners In their adoption of local toned and blazing bues. The Parisons are subdued in their taste, especially in their tion of colors for evening dresses. Gray, posa gentle-toned blue, and a soft primnose quits give a subdited aspect to a Paris ballroom semblage. The alteration has met with